XV. *A ſhort Account of Mr.* Kerſſeboom's *Eſſay* [*intituled,* Verhandeling *tot een Proeve om te weeten de probable* Menigte *des* Volks *in de Proventie van* Hollandt *en* Weſtfrieſlandt. Hage 1738. *in* 4to. *door* W. Kerſſeboom] *upon the Number of People in* Holland *and* Weſt-Friezland, *as alſo in* Harlem, Gouda *and the* Hague; *drawn from the Bills of Births, Burials, or Marriages, in thoſe Places. By* John Eames, F. R. S.

EVERY body knows to what uſeful Purpoſes the Bills of Births and Burials at the City of *Breſlau*, the Capital of *Sileſia*, have been applied, by a very learned and ſagacious Member of the ROYAL SOCIETY; as alſo what curious Obſervations have been made, both Moral, Phyſical and Political, by Sir *William Petty*, upon the ſame Argument, ſeveral Years before, and Dr. *Arbuthnot* and others ſince. Our induſtrious Author hath not only conſulted them, but acquainted himſelf more particularly with Mr. *King*'s Obſervations in *Davenant*'s Eſſays, *&c.* in order to render himſelf more capable of making a juſt Eſtimate in this Matter. He begins with the Number of Inhabitants in the two Provinces of *Holland* and *Weſt-Friezland*; theſe he makes at this time, *viz.* 1738. to amount in all to 980,000, and preſents the Reader with the following Table of the Particulars. It exhibits the Number of People of

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all Ages, living at the ſame time, from the Birth to extreme old Age; which, becauſe it ſhews the Chances of Mortality within the Ages mention'd, he calls the Table of Contingency of Life and Death.

The Table of Contingency.

Of above	90	Years old there are	500	
of	90	86 incluſive	2,500	
	85	81	6,500	
	80	76	13,000	
	75	71	20,300	
	70	66	27,300	
	65 to	61	34,300	
	60	56	40,800	
	55	51	47,000	
	50	46	53,000	
	45	41	57,800	
	40	36	62,500	
	35	31	67,600	
	30	27	58,400	
			491,500	the Sum above 27 Years.
of	26	21	94,300	
	20	16	83,400	
	15 to	11	87,200	
	10	6	91,800	
	5 to	Birth	131,800	
			488,500	Sum under 27 Years old.
			491,500	
			488,500	
			980,000	Sum of all the Inhabitants.

This Table is founded upon three Principles, *viz.* Correct Obſervations upon the Tables of aſſignable Annuities in *Holland*, which have been kept there for above 125 Years; wherein the Ages of the Perſons dying

dying are truly enter'd: Upon a Suppoſition that there are yearly born in the two Provinces 28,000 living Children; and laſtly, that the intire Number of Inhabitants in any Country is to the Number of the Births as 35 to 1.

This Table was ſent ſome time after its Compoſure to Profeſſor *s'Graveſande*, F. R. S. to know his Thoughts, as well concerning the Juſtneſs of it, as its Fitneſs to aſcertain the Value of Annuities on Lives; and, as he tells us, it met with the Profeſſor's Approbation.

From this Table it appears, (1.) That about half the Number of People in the two Provinces are above 27 Years old, and conſequently that near the other half are under that Age: (2.) Then, by following what hath been obſerv'd for more than 100 Years in *England*, and particularly in *London*, out of 35 Children born, 18 of them are Boys, and 17 Girls, the People in theſe two Provinces will conſiſt of

504,000 Males.
476,000 Females.

980,000.

He farther remarks, that it appears from the aſſignable Annuities for Lives mention'd before, the Females have in all Accidents of Age lived about three or four Years longer than the ſame Number of Males; which he looks upon to be appointed as a Compenſation for the continual Exceſs there is in the Birth of the Males above the Females.

Having conſider'd the Quantity, he then comes to take Notice of the Quality of theſe 980,000 Inhabitants, and ſays he ſees no Reaſon to differ from the Proportion of Mr. *King* in *Davenant's* Eſſays, who with

with a great deal of Pains and Judgment hath divided the People of *England* in this manner:

The Proportion for every 100,000 Inhabitants is,

Married Men and Women . . .	34,500.
Widowers	1,500.
Unmarried young Men and Children	45,000.
Servants	10,500.
Travellers, Strangers, *&c.* . . .	4,000.
	100,000.

If this Proportion be admitted, then the Number of each Sort in *Holland* and *Weſt-Frieſland* will be as you have underneath. He adds, that the ſaid Provinces can raiſe at this Time 220,000 able-bodied Men, deducting $\frac{1}{10}$ for Diſeaſes and other Infirmities. But then he admits at 16 years of Age, whereas Dr. *Halley* admits none till 18, Perſons under that Age being generally too weak to bear the Fatigues of War, and the Weight of Arms. He then proceeds to rectify the Miſtakes of the learned *Iſaac Voſſius*, who makes but 550,000 in *Holland*, *Weſt-Frieſland*, &c. Diſallows Sir *William Petty*'s Account of the Number of People in *London*, becauſe he makes them alone equal to the Inhabitants of *Holland* and *Weſt-Frieſland* together.

He cloſes the whole with a Table of the preſent Values of Annuities upon Lives, in Proportion to the ordinary or common Bonds charged upon thoſe Provinces, and ſubject to the extraordinary Taxes raiſed at this Time, *viz.* 1738. You will find annex'd, the Degrees of Mortality or Fatality, ſaid to be in the *Hague* and *Haagambagt*, as alſo the Numbers and Con-

Conditions of the Inhabitants of *Amſterdam*, *Harlem*, *Gouda* and the *Hague*, not omitting *London* at this preſent Time.

The two Provinces of *Holland* and *Weſt-Frieſland*.		*Amſterdam*.	*Harlem*.	*Gouda*.	*Hague*.	*London*.
Married Men and Women,	338000	86156	17420	690c	1485c	241800
Widowers, ...	14700	4218	760	30c	72c	13100
Widows, ...	44100	13858	2280	90c	238c	45700
Unmarried Youth and Children,	441000	93990	22700	900c	1619c	215700
Servants, ...	102900	28318	5300	210c	487c	85000
Travellers, Strangers, *&c.*	39300	14460	2040	80c	249c	52300
Total	980000	241000	50500	2000c	4150c	653600

The Fatality of the Quarters.	dead.
Spring to Summer . .	307
Summer to the Autumnal Equinox . .	286
Autumn to Winter . .	287
Winter to Spring . .	286

The Fatality of the Months 31 Years, one with another.

	dead.
January	102
February	88
March	95
April	77
May	112
June	100
July	92
Auguſt	95
September	99
October	93
November	95
December	99

Hence it appears, that *March* is leſs fatal at the *Hague* and *Haagambagt* than *April*, and *April* than *May* and *June*; that *May* is the moſt fatal Month of all; that the remaining Months are nearly equal. It appears further, that three Parts or Seaſons of the Year are very nearly equal; but that the other Quarter or Seaſon,

Seaſon, beginning at the Vernal Equinox, is more fatal than any of the reſt by one fifteenth Part.

TABLE *of* Annuities *for* Life.

Let the Annuity be 100 Guilders a Year, upon a Life under a Year old.

				Guild.	Guild.	Sti.
Its preſent Value is				1667 that is	6	0 *per Cent.*
Upon a Life of	5 Years	to	1 inclusive	1869	5	7
	10	to	6	1835	5	9
	15	to	11	1770	5	13
	20	to	16	1667	6	0
	25	to	21	1587	6	6
	30	to	26	1515	6	12
	35	to	31	1429	7	0
	40	to	36	1334	7	10
	45	to	41	1212	8	5
	50	to	46	1093	9	3
	55	to	51	971	10	6
	60	to	56	840	11	8
	65	to	61	709	14	2
	70	to	66	570	17	11

USE.

Queſtion, Let it be deſir'd to know the preſent Value of any Annuity for Life, for Inſtance, of 90 Guilders a Year, which was granted in the Year 1703, upon a Life then of three Years old.

Anſwer, The Life now (in 1738) is between 37 and 38 Years old; hence the Number between 40 and 36 gives 1334, for the preſent Value of an Annuity of 100 Guilders; hence $\left(\frac{1334 \times 90}{100} =\right)$ 1200 Guilders is the preſent Value of the Annuity for that Life.

There are other Uſes mention'd; but for theſe I refer to the Eſſay itſelf.

XVI. *An*